

Minutes

Judicial Education Committee Meeting March 11, 2005, 10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. National City Center, Room 1371

1. Committee Members present: Earl Penrod (Chair), Mark Bailey, Ted Boehm, Barb Collins, Darrin Dolehanty, Greg Donat, Bob Freese, Barb Harcourt, Jane Magnus Stinson, Maggie Robb, Ted Todd, Mike Witte. Law School intern Megan Kelly also attended with Jane Magnus Stinson.

2. Staff present: Cathy Springer, Jane Seigel, Vicki Davis, and Anne Jordan.

3. The minutes from the January meeting were approved.

4. Review Plans for Spring Judicial College.

The conference brochure for the Spring Judicial College was handed out. All agreed the brochure was excellent and a nice selection of courses offered.

5. Discuss Topics for Upcoming Programs in 2005.

- a. Annual Meeting of Judicial Conference, September 14-16. The committee discussed Brian Stevenson from the Equal Justice Initiative as a keynote speaker on the topic of justice remembering why we had become lawyers. He was recommended highly by Judge Nancy Vaidik. Justice Boehm also suggested Al Hubbard, Economic Policy Manager for President Bush, as a potential keynote speaker.
- b. A list of potential topics was handed out for the September conference. In addition to those mentioned, other topics were discussed: include DMHA in the 'Business of Judging' session, much like DOC's participation last year; in light of the recent threats to judicial security, have a session on personal security by the U.S. Marshal's office; have session on stress; have session on civility: "honor the law and the rule of law;" repeat Administrative Rule 9 and local rules session being done at the Spring Judicial College; Pro se session with focus on the civil side; how to find pro bono lawyers; session for the most recently elected judicial officers.
- c. Domestic Relations Workshop, November 17-18. Mindy Mitnick from Minneapolis, Minnesota has agreed to do a workshop on the "Psychological Aspects of Child Custody." Included in this topic are issues such as interviewing a child; understanding the custody evaluation; child development issues; assessing allegations of abuse/neglect; recognizing what psychological reports on the family may be appropriate and learning how to read them.
- d. Winter Conference—December 9. Suggestions include comparative legal systems; court security and personal security; and a presentation from the National Institute of Drug Abuse.

6. Scheduling Issues regarding September Annual Meeting '07 and '08.

As a general rule, the annual conference is held in Indianapolis every other year. In 2005 it is in Indianapolis, and scheduled to be back here in 2007. However, there are city-wide conferences during the two potential conference weeks, September 17 and 24, and the hotels in town cannot guarantee space availability for at least 6 more

months. Two options were presented: retain the conference in Indianapolis, but hold the meeting on Monday-Wednesday; or find space outside of Indianapolis. Staff reported that the Grand Wayne Center in Ft. Wayne is available. A motion was made and seconded to have the 2007 Annual Conference in Ft. Wayne, return to Indianapolis in 2008, and be in southern Indiana in 2009. Hopefully by then French Lick will have renovated the hotel and can better accommodate our group.

7. Request from James Payne, Director, Department of Child Services.

Jim Payne was a guest at the recent meeting of the Juvenile Justice Improvement Committee. He is planning statewide training for his local Office of Family and Children staff in June and September, scheduled for the second day of our Annual Meeting of Juvenile Court Judicial Officers (June 24) and the Annual Conference (September 14-16.) In his effort to get full participation of his staff, he asked that judges not schedule any CHINS hearings during these conferences. The committee was concerned about having a state agency ask judges to alter their schedule, even if for one day. Steve David (in absentia) suggested that he, as president of the Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, send out e-mail to judicial officers with this request for at least the Annual Meeting of Juvenile Court Judicial Officers.

8. Additional Items for discussion.

Distance learning and list-serves are a means to communicate and educate. Maggie Robb stated that it is necessary to effectively identify the topic of a list-serve to keep it narrow and controllable. She agreed to prepare a list of topics and the rules to govern a list serve by the next meeting. She asked committee members to email her their suggestions for topics by the next meeting.

9. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 20, 2005, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Jordan
Program Attorney